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AUDIO SERVICES
DIVISION

2511 Hwy 1 SW
Iowa City, IA 52240
February 20, 1998
FEB 20 11 44 AM '98

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street NW Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

FEB 24 1998
FCC MAIL ROOM

Dear Secretary:

I am writing concerning Federal Communications Commission actions in regard to a local micropower community broadcast station in Iowa City - ICFR which broadcasts at 88.7 FM. It is my understanding that on February 13, 1998, a Mr. Ron Ramage of the FCC, told the people at ICFR to go off the air or he would take "whatever action [he] deemed necessary to shut down" the station.

I realize the FCC has a role in the orderly licensing and regulation of radio broadcast stations. How this translates out to threatening and shutting down local micropower stations is, however, problematic to say the least.

ICFR is providing a clear public broadcasting service to our area. In doing this, to the best of my knowledge, they are not interfering with the signals of any other licensed broadcasters. So what, exactly, is the problem?

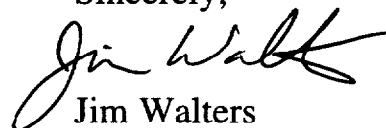
The young people who are operating ICFR are an outstanding example for all of us. They saw a need, got together, pooled their resources, and provided a service no one else would. For this, they should not be harassed, threatened, arrested, assaulted, fined, or shut down.

If changing the regulations is something that will keep stations like ICFR on the air, I hope you will make these changes as soon as possible. I'm told that you can reinstate something called class D non-commercial licensing. Please do this.

In the meantime, I hope the FCC has better things to do (and ways to spend our money) than by harassing micropower community broadcasters.

Copies to: Senator Grassley
Senator Harkin

Sincerely,



Jim Walters